

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks is requested. After entry of this reply, claims 1-4, 6-17, 20, 22, 31 and 32 are pending in the application. In this response and amendment, claims 1 and 20 are amended and claims 5 and 21 are cancelled.

Please note and record the change of Attorney Docket Number in this matter to: 119645.00103.5.

In the office action dated May 19, 2006, the examiner objects to the specification disclosure because it contains an embedded hyperlink; rejects claim 31 due to obviousness-type double patenting in view of claim 1 of U.S. Patent 6,636,886; and rejects claims 1-4, 6-11, 14-17, 20 and 22 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Trenbeath, et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,324,587). The examiner objects to claims 5 and 21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would find these claims allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Specification Objection

The examiner objects to the specification disclosure because it contains an embedded hyperlink in paragraph [0023]. Applicant has amended the specification to remove the embedded hyperlink.

Claim Rejections – Double Patenting

Claim 31 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of claim 1 of U.S. Patent 6,636,886. Applicant advises that a terminal disclaimer, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.321, will be filed once a range of allowable claims has been established. Applicant advises that the filing of a terminal disclaimer is for purposes of

furthering prosecution of this application, the filing expressing no opinion whether the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is warranted in view of the cited reference.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

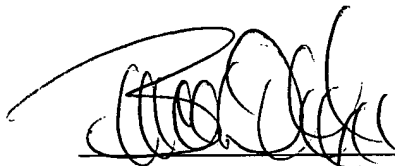
The examiner rejects claims 1-4, 6-11, 14-17, 20 and 22 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Trenbeath, et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,324,587). In this response and amendment, applicant amends the claims to take the allowable subject matter. Accordingly, applicant amends independent claims 1 and 20 to incorporate the features of dependent claims 5 and 21, respectively, and then cancels claims 5 and 21.

Applicant requests entry of the above amendments solely to expedite prosecution of the application. Applicant's amendments are not a concession to the examiner's claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, and may continue prosecution of these claims in a continuing application.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicant submits that pending claims 1-4, 6-17, 20, 22, 31 and 32 are allowable, that the application is in condition for allowance, and requests that the examiner issue an early notice of allowance. The examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney in the event that a telephone interview will advance prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce D. George', is written over a horizontal line.

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